

Appl. No. : 10/642,358
Filed : August 15, 2003

REMARKS

In a Notice to File Missing Parts with a mailing date of November 12, 2003 (the "Notice"), the Initial Patent Examination Division of the Patent Office stated that replacement drawings were required. The Notice states:

Replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 and 37 CFR 1.121 are required. The drawings submitted are not acceptable because: The drawings submitted to the Office are not electronically reproducible. Drawing sheets must be submitted on paper, which is flexible, strong, white, smooth, non-shiny, and durable (see 37 CFR 1.84(e)). See Figure(s) 4A-C, 5A-D, & 6A-D.

In response, Applicants have provided replacement drawings herewith. Prior Figures for Figures 4B, 4C, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6B, 6C, and 6D were predominantly dark. Replacement Figures for Figures 4B, 4C, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6B, 6C, and 6D correspond to "negatives" of the filed figures. The "negative" aspect of replacement Figures 4B, 4C, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6B, 6C, and 6D is indicated by the caption "negative" accompanying the Figures. Replacement sheets for Figures 1, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3 have also been provided so that the drawings are of the same size (A4) as required by rule 84(f).

Corresponding revisions to paragraphs [0024], [0025], [0027], [0028], [0029], [0031], [0032], [0033], [0070], [0073], [0079], [0086], [0087], [0088], and [0089] of the specification have been made via this preliminary amendment. In addition, a word "after" has been deleted in paragraph [0087] to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added via this amendment.

Applicants respectfully submit that the replacement drawings are now electronically reproducible, and comply with the requirements for the drawings set forth in the Notice.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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